

insurance companies with a model patients' bill of rights.

Now, all America should know that our success in Texas came despite the continual objection of then-Governor Bush, who threw up as many roadblocks as he could to those meaningful guarantees, in fact, almost as many as he now throws up to the bill we consider today on the Federal level for a national patients' bill of rights.

Incredibly, President Bush now seeks to override the effective State guarantees that we got enacted over his objection in Texas. And like the fine print in one of those policies that only pays if you get struck by lightning at leap year on a midnight summer day, this patients' bill of rights is riddled with loopholes for insurance companies to take advantage of sick patients and distressed families.

It should be rejected in favor of a real patients' bill of rights, the kind we got in Texas over President Bush's veto.

DONATING BONE MARROW FOR EMILY KIM

(Mr. BARTON of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BARTON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I want to call a time-out on some of our other debate for today and bring to the attention of my colleagues a young girl, 6 years old, named Emily Kim. Emily is very bright, very beautiful, and unfortunately, she is dying of leukemia. This spring doctors gave her and her parents only 6 months for her to live.

There is still hope, though. A bone marrow transfusion could save her life, literally, and doctors are hoping to find a bone marrow donor, a genetic match that is almost like finding a needle in a haystack, 1 in 100,000. It is even tougher because Kim is an Asian American, and not many Asian Americans have signed up with the National Bone Marrow Donor Registry. So I am calling on my colleagues to contact their constituents in the Asian American community and ask them to take a simple test to see if they might be that one-in-a-one hundred thousand donor match for young Emily. You must be 18 to 60 years old and in good health.

I know how important this is, because my brother died of liver cancer last year. We could not find a liver match that would have saved my brother's life, but we might save Emily's life. Take a few minutes, go to www.marrow.org, or contact your doctor or local office of the American Cancer Society. Working together, my colleagues, we may yet find that one-in-a-thousand donor match for young Emily Kim.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 2037

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the name of

the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. SENSENBRENNER) be removed as a cosponsor of H.R. 2037.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. FOSELLA). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

HMO HORROR STORIES

(Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I hope Emily does not have membership in an HMO. Because if Emily is covered by an HMO, it does not matter whether or not we find a donor because the HMO will not support it.

Mr. Speaker, we came here to represent people like Emily, but instead we have a bill that has been transformed into representing the HMOs and insurance companies. That is a travesty on the people of this Nation.

It is clear that what is being said about these new proposals for the HMO simply does not have a history of being true. I am a native Texan. We have a patients' bill of rights. We do not want this bill to tear it up. Our premiums are below the national average, more people are insured, and only 17 lawsuits in the last 4 years for 20 some million people. Now, is that extreme?

Let us represent the people.

TRADE PROMOTION AUTHORITY FOR PRESIDENT

(Mr. KIRK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KIRK. Mr. Speaker, next month this House will consider granting trade promotion authority to our President. One-third of all American families depend directly or indirectly on trade for their family incomes. America is the number one exporting nation, but unless we act, that leadership may fade.

The European Union has concluded dozens of trade agreements with other nations. We have signed only two. In the center of America's heartland, my State of Illinois is home to our country's first and second top exporters. We are also home to half of all Internet sales on the World Wide Web, which in reality is the American exporting web.

Trade authority will lay the foundation for continued American leadership with the highest paying jobs in the economy. I urge Members, when they return, to master the export opportunities ahead and give the President his authority.

PATIENTS' BILL OF WRONGS

(Ms. WOOLSEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, late in the evening, one of the authors of the bipartisan patients' bill of rights, a bill that the majority of the House of Representatives supports and the President does not support, the author of that legislation turned the good bill, under the pressure of the White House, into a patients' bill of wrongs.

Today, we will be voting on the President's idea of an insurance bill of rights, a bill that will kill the bill in the first place by putting impossible roadblocks in the way of patients getting effective care in a timely manner. This patients' bill of wrongs would also roll back protections already provided by States right here in this country today.

Do not vote for the patients' bill of wrongs.

COLORADO WING OF CIVIL AIR PATROL

(Mr. TANCREDI asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TANCREDI. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, I introduced a resolution, with the support of all five of my colleagues from Colorado, honoring the Colorado Wing of the Civil Air Patrol. The Colorado Wing was stabilized 60 years ago as a volunteer organization to conduct air and ground searches for downed or missing airplanes, hunters, hikers, and other missing persons across the State of Colorado.

Last year, the Colorado Wing was accredited with safely flying 1,216 air search and rescue hours and saving the lives of 15 people. It continues its efforts to aid the people of Colorado through annual camps, training Civil Air Patrol cadets in ground search and rescue, field and emergency skills, in leadership, and in self-discipline.

Having witnessed firsthand the invaluable and exemplary service the Colorado Wing of the Civil Air Patrol provides the people in the State of Colorado, I am extremely proud to introduce this resolution commending their excellent work and devotion to our community, and I urge my colleagues in support of this resolution.

VOTE DOWN BAD PATIENTS' BILL OF RIGHTS

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it has been 5 long years that many of us have toiled and worked and collaborated and offered legislation that really puts the patient-physician relationship as a top priority.

There is not one of us in America that has not confronted the health system in a David-and-Goliath posture, with the HMOs being Goliath and the patient, David. Sometimes David has won, maybe other times David has failed.